

PROPERTIES OF SUBHARMONIC FUNCTIONS IN THE HALF-PLANE

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1. Introduction. Recently Ahlfors and Heins [1] and Lelong-Ferrand have obtained the following theorem.

THEOREM 1. *If $u(z)$ is a negative subharmonic function in $Rz > 0$, and $\limsup_{z \rightarrow 0} u(z)/Rz = \alpha > -\infty$ in $Rz > 0$, then $\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} u(re^{i\theta})/r \cos \theta = \alpha$ for $|\theta| < \pi/2$ with the exception at most of a set of outer logarithmic capacity zero: uniformly in any closed interior angle if r is excluded from a set of finite logarithmic length; and without exception in any interior angle in which $u(z)$ is harmonic, (the Ahlfors-Heins-Ferrand theorem).*

(The original theorem in [4] deals more generally with a positive superharmonic function in n -dimension.)

Let us express the conclusion of Theorem 1 by saying that $u(re^{i\theta})/r \cos \theta$ tends effectively to α . By the statement that $u(re^{i\theta})/r \cos \theta$ is effectively bounded we shall mean the same thing with boundedness replacing approach to a limit.

It will be interesting to see how much the behavior of $u(z)$ on the imaginary axis can be weakened without destroying the conclusion of Theorem 1. Recently Boas has studied the same thing when z tends to the infinity for the functions of exponential type [2].

THEOREM 2. *If $u(z)$ is subharmonic in $Rz \geq 0$ including infinity and excepting the origin and satisfies*

$$(a) \quad \liminf_{r \rightarrow 0} r \int_{-\pi/2}^{+\pi/2} |u(re^{i\varphi})| \cos \varphi \, d\varphi = 0$$

$$(b) \quad \limsup_{z \rightarrow 0} u(z)/Rz = \beta > -\infty \left(|\arg z| < \delta < \frac{\pi}{2} \right)$$

and

$$(c) \quad \int_{-1}^1 t^{-2} u^+(\pm it) \, dt$$

exist, then for $|\theta| < \pi/2$

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{u(re^{i\theta})}{r \cos \theta} = \beta$$

under the same exceptions as those of Theorem 1.

THEOREM 3. *If $u(z)$ is subharmonic in $Rz \geq 0$ including infinity and ex-*

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